

Hampton Quarters One
537 1/2 St. Francis Road
North of Hampton Overseer's House (Hampton Farm House)
North of Hampton National Historic Site
Towson
Baltimore County
Maryland

HABS No. MD-226-K

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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. MD-226-K

HAMPTON QUARTERS ONE

Location: 537½ St. Francis Road, north of Hampton
Overseer's House (Hampton Farm House), north
of Hampton National Historic Site, Towson,
Baltimore County, Maryland

Present Owner: John Ridgely, Jr. estate

Present Use: Storage

Statement of
Significance: This small structure of log construction is
unique among the Hampton outbuilding struc-
tures.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: The tract of land on which the Quarters were built was acquired in 1745 by Colonel Charles Ridgely from Clement and Ann Hill. The 1500 acre tract, "Northampton," had been inherited by Ann Hill from her father, Henry Darnall, who had patented it in 1695. Captain Charles Ridgely, Colonel Ridgely's son, inherited the property in 1772 after his father's death. Captain Ridgely, for whom Hampton Mansion was built, died in 1790. In accordance with his will, nephew Charles Ridgely Carnan assumed title to much of the estate and the Ridgely name. On January 17, 1791, widow Rebecca Ridgely signed an agreement with Charles Carnan Ridgely to exchange a tract of land and a house for her rights, claims and interest to Hampton. The estate was inherited by Charles Carnan Ridgely's second son, John, in 1829, as his first son, Charles, had died in 1819. After John's death in 1867, the estate was inherited by his son, Charles, who bequeathed it to his son, John, in 1872. The estate was left to John Ridgely, Jr. in 1938, who sold the mansion and an adjoining forty-two acres to the Avalon Foundation in 1946. After the completion of the sale, John Ridgely, Jr. and his wife moved to the Overseer's House (HABS No. MD-226-J) across Hampton Lane. John Ridgely, Jr. died in 1959 and his wife, Jane Rodney

Ridgely, like all the past Ridgely wives, maintains dower rights to the property. John Ridgely III is executor.

2. Date of erection: Post-1843
 3. Architect: Unknown
 4. Construction information: None known
 5. Alterations and additions: None known, though if the structure is one of the earliest buildings of the Hampton estate, as it is believed, it was probably moved to its present site after 1843.
 6. Important old views: The 1843 plat of the Hampton estate does not show a building of the size and orientation of Quarters One. In the proximity there were a "Root House" and a "Hen House."
- B. Historic Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:
See the historical data for Hampton Mansion (HABS No. MD-226-A).
- C. Sources of Information:
1. Primary and unpublished sources: The Ridgely family papers are indexed by Avril J. M. Pedley in The Manuscript Collections of the Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, 1968. Contained are eight collection numbers which list eighty-seven volumes and approximately thirty-five boxes of loose material.
 2. Secondary and published sources: None known

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This story-and-a-half structure with a gable roof is a duplex structure with a four-bay south facade, a two-bay north facade and a window in each east and west gable end.
2. Condition of the fabric: The structure is in a deteriorating condition.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: Quarters One is 15'-6" x 35'-6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".
2. Foundations: The foundations are rubble stone masonry.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: A board and batten veneer is applied over log walls.
4. Structural system: The log walls support the floor and roof structures.
5. Porches: None
6. Chimneys: An interior stone chimney breast has a brick stack above the roof line.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Board and batten doors are hung within wood frame doorways which have concrete steps.
 - b. Windows and shutters: The window openings have plain wood frames and are hung with six-over-six light double hung sash.
8. Roof:
 - a. Shape and covering: The gable roof has wood shingles.
 - b. Cornice and eaves: The eaves are boxed and barge boards extend up the rakes.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The basement, which is partially unexcavated, has a single room at the east end with north and east window openings. Two rooms are at the first and attic floors and are separated by the chimney breast and partitions which are flush with the west side of the chimney breast.
2. Stairways: An open stairway ascends from the basement under an enclosed stairway to the attic at the east duplex unit. A similar enclosed stairway rises to a typical open well at the attic floor. Each stair has a corner landing, one step up from the first floor, which quarter turns the runs. The stairwalls have square newels and plain rails at the attic floor.

3. Flooring: The basement floor is earth. Narrow boarding apparently replaced the original flooring at the first floor and attic.
 4. Wall and ceiling finish: Exposed rubble masonry walls are at the basement room. The walls of the first floor and attic are also plaster applied on wood lath. All the rooms have plaster ceilings.
 5. Doorways and doors: Board and batten doors are hung in plain wood frames.
 6. Special decorative features, trim and cabinet work: None
 7. Hardware: Typically, the hardware is late nineteenth and early twentieth century replacements.
 8. Mechanical equipment: The Quarters were heated by fireplaces in each room. Except for stovepipe thimbles, the openings have been closed and plastered over. Brick hearths survive at the first floor east room and at the attic west room. The attic east room hearth has been floored over. In the basement a brick arched fireplace with an iron lintel retains a cooking crane in the opening.
- D. Site and Surroundings: This structure is sited north of the Overseer's House (HABS No. MD-226-J) and forms a courtyard with the other two Quarters structures and the east wing of the Overseer's House.

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was initially financed with funds from the "Mission 66" Program of the National Park Service under the direction of Charles E. Peterson, Supervising Architect, Historic Structures. Hampton Mansion was measured in 1958 by Student Assistant Architects Orville W. Carroll (University of Oregon), Harold A. Nelson (University of Michigan), and Trevor Nelson (M.I.T.), with Professor Lee H. Nelson (University of Illinois) as Project Supervisor. The complex was measured and drawn in 1959 by Student Assistant Architects Charles C. Boldrick (University of Notre Dame), Richard C. Mehring (University of Virginia) and Herbert L. Banks (University of Florida), with Professor F. Blair Reeves (University of Florida) as Project Supervisor.

The project was edited in 1972-73 by Rodd L. Wheaton, Architect, Historic American Buildings Survey, who prepared the historical data, edited and expanded the 1959 architectural data and recorded several structures which were previously unrecorded.